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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

11th August 2010 Both vulnerable. South deals.

	NORTH ♠ 9 8 ♥ A 7 6 4 ♦ 10 8 6 5 ♣ A Q 7	
WEST ♠ 6 3 ♥ K 10 ♦ A 9 7 3 2 ♣ 8 6 5 4		EAST ♠ A Q J 10 4 2 ♥ 9 3 ♦ K 4 ♣ 9 3 2
	SOUTH ♠ K 7 5 ♥ Q J 8 5 2 ♦ Q J ♣ K J 10	

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 NT	Pass	2 Club	2 Spade
3 Heart	Pass	4 Heart	X
All Pass			

Opening lead: Six of ♠

We are not sure that we would have chosen to open the South hand, with its host of secondary honors and unprotected diamond honors, with one no trump. As a result, North-South reached a pushy game and West, looking at two defensive tricks, elected to double.

West led the top of his spade doubleton. East won with the ace and, in an attempt to find a ruff, shifted to the king of diamonds and continued the suit when the monarch survived. With West's doubleton king of hearts sitting under the ace, it looked as if the defenders had managed all they could, but West was not done yet. He continued with a third round of diamonds and East rose to the occasion — he ruffed with the nine of trumps!

Declarer had no counter. He was forced to overruff with one of his trump honors and now West's K 10 of trumps was promoted to the setting trick no matter how declarer maneuvered. South made a good shot by leading the queen of trumps, hoping to pin a now singleton ten of hearts, but to no avail — down one doubled.

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